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PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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(21)Application number : 07-281891

(71)Applicant: HITACHI CABLE LTD

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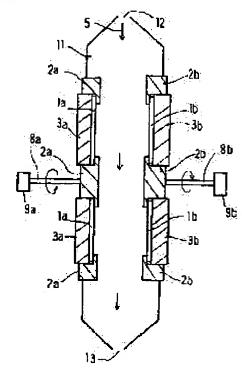
(72)Inventor: MINAGAWA SHUNICHI

(54) VAPOR EPITAXIAL GROWTH METHOD AND DEVICE

(57) Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a vapor epitaxial growth method and a device which are capable of producing various kinds of products in a small amount and high productivity.

SOLUTION: As semiconductor substrates 1a and 1b are held in a vertical position by two suscepters 2a and 2b or more, a thin film is grown through a vapor growth method on the semiconductor substrates twice or more as many as those in a conventional method. The semiconductor substrates 1a and 1b are held in a vertical position, so that foreign objects are prevented from adhering to the surfaces of the semiconductor substrates, a vapor epitaxial growth device of this constitution is lessened in floor space, and material gas



is efficiently used. Therefore, various kinds of vapor epitaxial semiconductor substrates can be manufactured, and a small amount of each epitaxial semiconductor substrate can be manufactured in high productivity. The suscepters 2a and 2b are rotated when a thin film is grown through a vapor growth method, whereby a thin film uniform in film quality can be formed on the semiconductor substrates 1a and 1b respectively.

LEGAL STATUS

[Date of request for examination]

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DERWENT-ACC-NO: 1997-325893

DERWENT-WEEK: 199730

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TITLE: Vapour-phase epitaxial growth of thin film on semiconductor wafers - involves vertically holding wafer between susceptors and passing gas up wafers

PATENT-ASSIGNEE: HITACHI CABLE LTD[HITD]

PRIORITY-DATA: 1995JP-0281891 (October 30, 1995)

PATENT-FAMILY:

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ABSTRACTED-PUB-NO: JP 09129553A

BASIC-ABSTRACT: Wafer are held on vertically positioned two or more susceptors, and source gas is supplied along the wafers upward.

ADVANTAGE - High throughput is ensured.

CHOSEN-DRAWING: Dwg.1/3

TITLE-TERMS:

VAPOUR PHASE EPITAXIAL GROWTH THIN FILM SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER VERTICAL HOLD WAFER SUSCEPTIBILITY PASS GAS UP WAFER

DERWENT-CLASS: L03 U11

CPI-CODES: L04-C01;

EPI-CODES: U11-C01A1; U11-C01J2;

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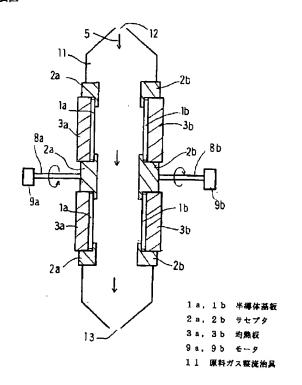
(74)代理人 弁理士 絹谷 信雄

(54) 【発明の名称】 気相エピタキシャル成長方法及びその装置

(57)【要約】

【課題】 多品種少量生産が可能で生産性の高い気相工 ピタキシャル成長方法及びその装置を提供する。

【解決手段】 2つ以上のサセプタ2a, 2bで半導体 基板1a, 1bをそれぞれ垂直に保持するので、同時に 2倍以上の数の半導体基板に薄膜の気相成長を施すこと ができる。また、半導体基板1a,1bが垂直に保持さ れるので、異物が半導体基板1a,1b表面に付着する のが防止され、装置の敷地面積が減少し、かつ、原料ガ スが効率的に使用される。このため気相エピタキシャル 半導体基板の多品種少量生産が可能であり、しかも生産 性が向上する。また、薄膜の気相成長時にサセプタ2 a, 2bを回転させる場合には、半導体基板1a, 1b 上に均一な薄膜が形成される。



【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 サセプタで半導体基板を保持しつつ加熱 手段で加熱し、その半導体基板上に原料ガスを供給して 薄膜を気相成長させる気相エピタキシャル成長方法にお いて、2つ以上のサセプタで半導体基板をそれぞれ垂直 に保持し、原料ガスを半導体基板に沿って上から下に供 給することを特徴とする気相エピタキシャル成長方法。

【請求項2】 薄膜の気相成長時に上記サセプタを水平 な中心軸の回りに回転させる請求項1記載の気相エピタ キシャル成長方法。

【請求項3】 2つのサセプタで半導体基板が互いに対 向するように垂直に保持し、その間に原料ガスを上から 下に流すようにした請求項1又は2記載の気相エピタキ シャル成長方法。

【請求項4】 半導体基板を垂直に保持した n個(n≥ 3) のサセプタを準備し、仮想のn角柱の各面にサセプ タを半導体基板が n 角柱の内側を向くように配置し、原 料ガスを上から下に流すようにした請求項1又は2記載 の気相エピタキシャル成長方法。

【請求項5】 半導体基板をそれぞれ垂直に保持する2 つ以上のサセプタと、上記半導体基板を加熱する加熱手 段と、上記半導体基板に沿って原料ガスを上から下に供 給し半導体基板に薄膜を成長させるガス供給手段とを備 えたことを特徴とする気相エピタキシャル成長装置。

【請求項6】 薄膜の気相成長時に上記サセプタを水平 な中心軸の回りに回転させる回転手段を設けた請求項5 記載の気相エピタキシャル成長装置。

【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【発明の属する技術分野】本発明は、気相エピタキシャ 30 ル成長方法及びその装置に関する。

[0002]

【従来の技術】図3(a)は従来の気相エピタキシャル 成長方法を適用した気相成長装置の概念図を示す図であ り、図3(b)はそのA-A線断面図である。

【0003】図3(a)に示す半導体基板(以下「基 板」という。) 1は加熱手段(図示せず)で加熱された 円盤状のサセプタ2で基板1の表面が下側になるように 支持される。基板1の上には加熱されたときに基板1を 均一な温度にする均熱板3が載置されている。原料ガス 40 供給口4から供給される原料ガス5は、原料ガス整流治 具6を通り基板1の表面に沿って水平に流れ、反応する ことにより基板1の表面に結晶が成長する。過剰な原料 ガスは、排気口7より排気される。尚、8はサセプタ2 を支持するサセプタ支持棒、9はサセプタ支持棒8をそ の中心軸の回りに回転させるモータである。

【0004】気相成長装置内にあるサセプタ2は、図3 に示すように開口部10が数箇所設けてある。その開口 部10に基板1の表面を下側にして支持する。サセプタ っており、サセプタ2が回転することにより開口部10 に支持された各基板1のエピタキシャル成長後の特性が 均一になる。

【0005】

【発明が解決しようとする課題】しかしながら、図3 (a)、(b)に示した従来の気相成長装置に用いられ るサセプタ2には、複数(図3(b)では4個)の開口 部10が形成されている。この開口部10はすべて大き さが等しく、サセプタ2の中心から同一距離になるよう 10 な構成となっている。

【0006】この開口部10に基板をその表面が下側に なるように支持し、サセプタ2が回転しながらエピタキ シャル成長すると基板1に成長したエピタキシャル層の 特性はどの開口部で成長しても均一となる。

【0007】このようなサセプタ2を用いた気相成長装 置の生産性を向上させるためには、開口部10を4個か ら8個或いは10個に増やすことが考えられる。 開口部 10を4個から8個或いは10個に増加する場合、サセ プタ2の直径は開口部10が4個のものより数倍大きく 20 なる。

【0008】サセプタ2の直径を大きくすると、それに 伴い反応炉(装置自体)も大きくなり、原料ガスの使用 量も増加するので、多品種少量生産には向かない装置に なってしまう。

【0009】そこで、本発明の目的は、上記課題を解決 し、多品種少量生産が可能で生産性の高い気相エピタキ シャル成長方法及びその装置を提供することにある。

[0010]

【課題を解決するための手段】上記目的を達成するため に本発明は、サセプタで半導体基板を保持しつつ加熱手 段で加熱し、その半導体基板上に原料ガスを供給して薄 膜を気相成長させる気相エピタキシャル成長方法におい て、2つ以上のサセプタで半導体基板をそれぞれ垂直に 保持し、原料ガスを半導体基板に沿って上から下に供給 するものである。

【0011】上記構成に加え本発明は、薄膜の気相成長 時にサセプタを水平な中心軸の回りに回転させてもよ

【0012】上記構成に加え本発明は、2つのサセプタ で半導体基板が互いに対向するように垂直に保持し、そ の間に原料ガスを上から下に流すようにしてもよい。

【0013】上記構成に加え本発明は、半導体基板を垂 直に保持したn個(n≧3)のサセプタを準備し、仮想 を向くように配置し、原料ガスを上から下に流すように してもよい。

【0014】また本発明は、半導体基板をそれぞれ垂直 に保持する2つ以上のサセプタと、半導体基板を加熱す る加熱手段と、半導体基板に沿って原料ガスを上から下 2の中心から各開口部10までの距離はすべて等しくな 50 に供給し半導体基板に薄膜を成長させるガス供給手段と

を備えたものである。

【0015】上記構成に加え本発明は、薄膜の気相成長 時にサセプタを水平な中心軸の回りに回転させる回転手 段を設けてもよい。

【0016】上記構成によって、2つ以上のサセプタで 半導体基板をそれぞれ垂直に保持するので、同時に2倍 以上の数の半導体基板に薄膜の気相成長を施すことがで きる。半導体基板が垂直に保持されるので、異物が半導 体基板表面に付着するのが防止され、装置の敷地面積が 減少し、かつ、原料ガスが効率的に使用される。しかも 10 原料ガスが上から下に供給されるので、半導体基板に異 物が付着しても強制的に除去される。

【0017】このため多品種少量生産が可能で生産性の 高い気相エピタキシャル成長方法及びその装置が実現す る。

【0018】薄膜の気相成長時にサセプタを回転させる 場合には、半導体基板上に均一な薄膜が形成される。 [0019]

【発明の実施の形態】以下、本発明の実施の形態を添付 図面に基づいて詳述する。

【0020】図1は本発明の気相エピタキシャル成長方 法を適用した装置の一実施の形態を示す概念図である。

【0021】同図において、垂直に保持され、かつ対向 する2つの同一形状の円盤状のサセプタ(図3(b)参 照) 2a, 2bに円盤状の基板1a, 1bがその表面が 内側になるように支持されている。

【0022】基板1の各裏面側(外側)には基板1a, 1 b を均一な温度にするための円盤状の均熱板3 a, 3 bが設けられている。2つのサセプタ2a, 2bの上側 には原料ガス5の流れを整える原料ガス整流治具11が 30 設けられており、原料ガス供給口12から供給された原 料ガス5が各基板1a,1bの表面に沿って平行に流 れ、反応することにより基板1の表面に結晶が気相成長 する。尚、過剰な原料ガスは2つのサセプタ2a, 2b の下側にある排気口13より排気される。

【0023】尚、8a,8bはサセプタ2a,2bを支 持するサセプタ支持棒、9a,9bはサセプタ支持棒2 a. 2b及びサセプタ2a, 2bを回転させるためのモ **ー夕である。**

【0024】このように、2つのサセプタ2a, 2bで 40 8つの半導体基板1a,1bをそれぞれ垂直に保持する ので、同時に2倍の数の半導体基板1a,1bに薄膜の 気相成長を施すことができる。また、異物が半導体基板 1 a, 1 bの表面に付着するのが防止され、装置の敷地 面積が減少し、かつ、原料ガスが効率的に使用される。 このため気相エピタキシャルによる半導体基板の生産性 が向上する。

【0025】また、薄膜の気相成長時にサセプタ2a. 2 bをモータ9a, 9 bで回転させるので、半導体基板 1 a, 1 b 上に均一な薄膜が形成される(尚、モータ9 50

a, 9bの回転方向は逆方向が好ましい。)。さらにサ セプタ2a,2bは従来のものを流用することができる ので、新たにサセプタ2a, 2bを製作する必要がな

【0026】図2は本発明の気相エピタキシャル成長方 法を適用した装置の他の実施の形態の平面図である。

【0027】図1に示した実施の形態との相違点は、4 つのサセプタ2a, 2b, 2c, 2dで半導体基板1を 垂直かつ、2つのサセプタ2a, 2c(2b, 2d)に 保持された半導体基板1a、1c(1b、1d)が互い に向かい合うようにし、原料ガスを上から下(紙面に垂 直な方向、表から裏)に流すようにした点である。

【0028】同図において紙面に垂直に4つのサセプタ 2a, 2b, 2c, 2dが配置され、かつ表から裏にわ たって原料ガスが供給される。サセプタ2a, 2b, 2 c, 2dの上(紙面表側)には断面が正方形のガス整流 治具が設けられている。

【0029】このような構成にすることにより、従来の サセプタ2a, 2b, 2c, 2dで4倍の数の基板1 a, 1b, 1c, 1dの気相成長を行うことができる。

尚、上述した実施の形態ではサセプタの数が2つ或いは 4つの場合で説明したが、これに限定されるものではな く3つでも5つ以上であってもよい。すなわち、半導体 基板を垂直に保持した n個(n≥3)のサセプタを準備 し、仮想のn角柱の各面にサセプタを半導体基板がn角 柱の内側を向くように配置し、原料ガスを上から下に流 すようにしてもよい。

[0030]

【発明の効果】以上要するに本発明によれば、次のよう な優れた効果を発揮する。

【0031】2つ以上のサセプタで半導体基板をそれぞ れ垂直に保持し、原料ガスを半導体基板に沿って上から 下に供給するので、多品種少量生産が可能で生産性の高 い気相エピタキシャル成長方法及びその装置を実現する ことができる。

【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】本発明の気相エピタキシャル成長方法を適用し た装置の一実施の形態を示す概念図である。

【図2】本発明の気相エピタキシャル成長方法を適用し た装置の他の実施の形態の平面図である。

【図3】(a)は従来の気相エピタキシャル成長方法を 適用した気相成長装置の概念図を示す図であり、(b) は(a)のA-A線断面図である。

【符号の説明】

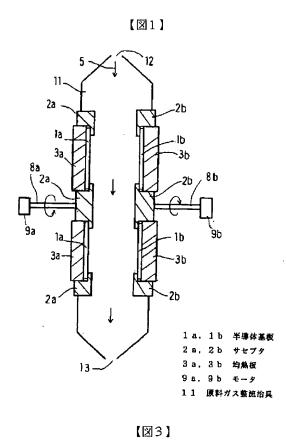
1a,1b 半導体基板

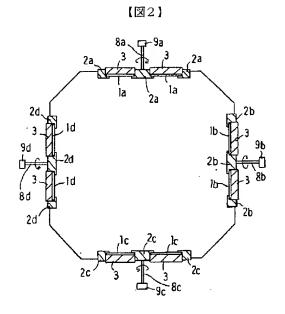
2a, 2b サセプタ

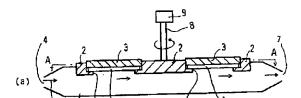
3a, 3b 均熱板

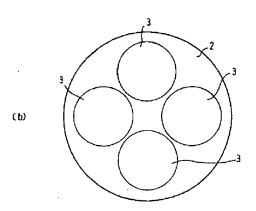
9a, 9b モータ

11 原料ガス整流治具









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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] The vapor-phase-epitaxial-growth method characterized by holding a semiconductor substrate to a perpendicular by two or more susceptors, respectively, and supplying material gas to the bottom of an upper shell along with a semiconductor substrate in the vapor-phase-epitaxial-growth method to which it heats with a heating means, holding a semiconductor substrate by the susceptor, material gas is supplied on the semiconductor substrate, and the vapor growth of the thin film is carried out. [Claim 2] The vapor-phase-epitaxial-growth method according to claim 1 of rotating the above-mentioned susceptor around a level medial axis at the time of the vapor growth of a thin film. [Claim 3] The vapor-phase-epitaxial-growth method according to claim 1 or 2 which holds perpendicularly so that a semiconductor substrate may counter mutually by two susceptors, and passed material gas from a top to the bottom in the meantime.

[Claim 4] The vapor-phase-epitaxial-growth method according to claim 1 or 2 which prepared n susceptors (n>=3) which held the semiconductor substrate perpendicularly, arranges the inside of n prism to each field of n prism of imagination so that a semiconductor substrate may turn to a susceptor, and passed material gas from a top to the bottom.

[Claim 5] The vapor phase epitaxial growth system characterized by having two or more susceptors which hold a semiconductor substrate to a perpendicular, respectively, a heating means to heat the above-mentioned semiconductor substrate, and a gas supply means to supply material gas downward from a top along with the above-mentioned semiconductor substrate, and to grow up a thin film into a semiconductor substrate.

[Claim 6] The vapor phase epitaxial growth system according to claim 5 which established a rotation means to rotate the above-mentioned susceptor around a level medial axis at the time of the vapor growth of a thin film.

[Translation done.]

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[The technical field to which invention belongs] this invention relates to the vapor-phase-epitaxial-growth method and its equipment.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] <u>Drawing 3</u> (a) is drawing showing the conceptual diagram of the vapor-growth equipment which applied the conventional vapor-phase-epitaxial-growth method, and <u>drawing 3</u> (b) is the A-A line cross section.

[0003] The semiconductor substrate (henceforth a "substrate") 1 shown in drawing 3 (a) is supported so that the front face of a substrate 1 may turn down by the susceptor 2 of the shape of a disk heated with the heating means (not shown). On the substrate 1, when heated, the soaking board 3 which makes a substrate 1 uniform temperature is laid. The material gas 5 supplied from the material gas feed hopper 4 flows horizontally along the front face of a substrate 1 through the material gas rectification fixture 6, and a crystal grows up to be the front face of a substrate 1 by reacting. Superfluous material gas is exhausted from an exhaust port 7. In addition, the susceptor bearing bar to which 8 supports a susceptor 2, and 9 are motors made to rotate the susceptor bearing bar 8 around the medial axis.

[0004] As the susceptor 2 in vapor-growth equipment is shown in <u>drawing 3</u>, several openings 10 are provided. It supports by carrying out the front face of a substrate 1 to the opening 10 at the bottom. All the distance from the center of a susceptor 2 to each opening 10 is equal, and when a susceptor 2 rotates, the property after epitaxial growth of each substrate 1 supported by opening 10 becomes uniform. [0005]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] However, the opening 10 of plurality (<u>drawing 3</u> (b) four pieces) is formed in the susceptor 2 used for the conventional vapor-growth equipment shown in <u>drawing 3</u> (a) and (b). Altogether, this opening 10 has an equal size and has the composition that it becomes a repeat range from the center of a susceptor 2.

[0006] It supports so that the front face may turn a substrate to this opening 10 down, and if it grows epitaxially while a susceptor 2 rotates, even if the property of the epitaxial layer which grew up to be a substrate 1 grows by which opening, it will become uniform.

[0007] In order to raise the productivity of the vapor-growth equipment using such a susceptor 2, it is possible to increase opening 10 from four pieces to eight pieces or ten pieces. When increasing opening 10 from four pieces to eight pieces or ten pieces, as for the diameter of a susceptor 2, opening 10 becomes large several times from four things.

[0008] If the diameter of a susceptor 2 is enlarged, since a reactor (equipment itself) will also become large in connection with it and the amount of the material gas used will also increase, it will become equipment which is not fit for limited production with a wide variety.

[0009] Then, the purpose of this invention is to be able to solve the above-mentioned technical problem, able to produce a wide variety in limited amounts, and offer the high vapor-phase-epitaxial-growth method of productivity, and its equipment.

[0010]

[Means for Solving the Problem] In order to attain the above-mentioned purpose, in the vapor-phase-epitaxial-growth method to which it heats with a heating means, holding a semiconductor substrate by the susceptor, material gas is supplied on the semiconductor substrate, and the vapor growth of the thin film is carried out, this invention holds a semiconductor substrate to a perpendicular by two or more susceptors, respectively, and supplies material gas to the bottom of an upper shell along with a semiconductor substrate.

[0011] In addition to the above-mentioned composition, this invention may rotate a susceptor around a level medial axis at the time of the vapor growth of a thin film.

[0012] this invention is perpendicularly held so that a semiconductor substrate may counter mutually by two susceptors, and you may make it pass material gas from a top to the bottom in the meantime in addition to the above-mentioned composition.

[0013] this invention prepares n susceptors (n>=3) which held the semiconductor substrate perpendicularly, to each field of n prism of imagination, it arranges the inside of n prism so that a semiconductor substrate may turn to a susceptor, and you may make it pass material gas from a top to the bottom in addition to the above-mentioned composition.

[0014] Moreover, this invention is equipped with two or more susceptors which hold a semiconductor substrate to a perpendicular, respectively, a heating means to heat a semiconductor substrate, and a gas supply means to supply material gas downward from a top along with a semiconductor substrate, and to grow up a thin film into a semiconductor substrate.

[0015] In addition to the above-mentioned composition, this invention may establish a rotation means to rotate a susceptor around a level medial axis at the time of the vapor growth of a thin film.

[0016] By the above-mentioned composition, since a semiconductor substrate is held to a perpendicular by two or more susceptors, respectively, the vapor growth of a thin film can be simultaneously given to the semiconductor substrate of the number more than double precision. Since a semiconductor substrate is held perpendicularly, it is prevented that a foreign matter adheres to a semiconductor substrate front face, and the plottage of equipment decreases, and material gas is used efficiently. And since material gas is supplied downward from a top, even if a foreign matter adheres to a semiconductor substrate, it is removed compulsorily.

[0017] For this reason, a wide variety can be produced in limited amounts and the high vapor-phase-epitaxial-growth method of productivity and its equipment are realized.

[0018] When rotating a susceptor at the time of the vapor growth of a thin film, a uniform thin film is formed on a semiconductor substrate.

[0019]

[Embodiments of the Invention] Hereafter, the gestalt of operation of this invention is explained in full detail based on an accompanying drawing.

[0020] <u>Drawing 1</u> is the conceptual diagram showing the gestalt of 1 operation of the equipment which applied the vapor-phase-epitaxial-growth method of this invention.

[0021] It is supported so that the disk-like substrates 1a and 1b may become the susceptors (refer to drawing 3 (b)) 2a and 2b of the shape of a disk of the two same configurations which are held perpendicularly and counter in this drawing and the front face may become inside.

[0022] The soaking boards 3a and 3b of the shape of a disk for making Substrates 1a and 1b into uniform temperature are formed in each rear-face side (outside) of a substrate 1. The material gas rectification fixture 11 which prepares the flow of material gas 5 is formed in the two susceptora [2] and 2b bottom, the material gas 5 supplied from the material gas feed hopper 12 flows in parallel along the front face of each substrates 1a and 1b, and a crystal carries out a vapor growth to the front face of a substrate 1 by reacting. In addition, superfluous material gas is exhausted from the exhaust port 13 with the two susceptora [2] and 2b bottom.

[0023] In addition, the susceptor bearing bar to which 8a and 8b support Susceptors 2a and 2b, and 9a and 9b are the motors for rotating the susceptor bearing bars 2a and 2b and Susceptors 2a and 2b. [0024] Thus, since eight semiconductor substrates 1a and 1b are held to a perpendicular by two

susceptors 2a and 2b, respectively, the vapor growth of a thin film can be simultaneously given to the semiconductor substrates 1a and 1b of the number of double precision. Moreover, it is prevented that a foreign matter adheres to the front face of the semiconductor substrates 1a and 1b, and the plottage of equipment decreases, and material gas is used efficiently. For this reason, the productivity of the semiconductor substrate by the gaseous-phase epitaxial improves.

[0025] Moreover, since Susceptors 2a and 2b are rotated by Motors 9a and 9b at the time of the vapor growth of a thin film, a uniform thin film is formed on semiconductor substrate 1a and 1b (the hand of cut of Motors 9a and 9b has a in addition desirable opposite direction.). Since Susceptors 2a and 2b can furthermore divert the conventional thing, it is not necessary to newly manufacture Susceptors 2a and 2b.

[0026] <u>Drawing 2</u> is the plan of the gestalt of other operations of the equipment which applied the vapor-phase-epitaxial-growth method of this invention.

[0027] the difference with the gestalt of operation shown in <u>drawing 1</u> -- four susceptors 2a, 2b, 2c, and 2d -- the semiconductor substrate 1 -- a perpendicular -- and The semiconductor substrates 1a and 1c (1b, 1d) held at two susceptors 2a and 2c (2b, 2d) are the points of making it face mutually and having passed material gas from a top to the bottom (from a direction perpendicular to space, and a table to the reverse side).

[0028] In this drawing, four susceptors 2a, 2b, 2c, and 2d are arranged at right angles to space, and material gas is supplied ranging from the table to the reverse side. On Susceptors 2a, 2b, 2c, and 2d (space side front), the square gas rectification fixture is formed for the cross section.

[0029] By making it such composition, a substrates [of one 4 times the number of this / 1a, 1b, 1c, and 1d] vapor growth can be performed by the conventional susceptors 2a, 2b, 2c, and 2d. In addition, although the gestalt of operation mentioned above explained by the case where the number of susceptors is two or four, it may not be limited to this and at least three may be five or more. That is, n susceptors (n>=3) which held the semiconductor substrate perpendicularly are prepared, to each field of n prism of imagination, the inside of n prism is arranged so that a semiconductor substrate may turn to a susceptor, and you may make it pass material gas from a top to the bottom.

[Effect of the Invention] In short, according to this invention, the following outstanding effects are demonstrated above.

[0031] Since a semiconductor substrate is held to a perpendicular by two or more susceptors, respectively and material gas is supplied to the bottom of an upper shell along with a semiconductor substrate, a wide variety can be produced in limited amounts and the high vapor-phase-epitaxial-growth method of productivity and its equipment can be realized.

[Translation done.]